

Strategy for labour reforms

818. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any strategy has been worked out to bring about labour reforms;

(b) if so, what goals have been set out thereunder, both for the organized and unorganized sectors, and the time-frame set out therefor; and

(c) whether it is a fact that major part of the work, both in public as well as private sectors, is presently carried out through contract labour, on daily wages terms, and a ban has been imposed on recruitment of regular staff in Government departments and undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Review/update of labour laws, by way of labour reforms, is a continuous process in order to bring them in tune with the emerging needs of the economy. The applicability of these laws to different categories of workers is defined in the Act themselves.

(c) Types of workers recruited in private and public sectors depend upon work requirement. According to information received from the Department of Public enterprises, it has not issued any instructions imposing ban on recruitment of regular staff in Central Public Sector Enterprises. According to information received from the Department of Expenditure, recruitment to direct recruitment vacancies in the Government are regulated under Department of Personnel and Training's O.M. No. 2/8/2001-PIC dated 16.05.2001 on optimization of direct recruitment to civilian posts and Department of Expenditure has no instructions on ban on recruitment.

Plight of workers in ship breaking Industry in Gujarat

819. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the plight of workers in ship-breaking industry particularly at Alang in Gujarat, which is the biggest ship breaking yard in the country; and

(b) whether Government are aware that more than 200 workers died in job oriented accidents at Alang ship breaking yard during the last 10 years and a vast majority of workers suffer from diseases like asthma and TB, because of inhaling asbestos and other substances, while dismantling the ship?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per information received from the State Government of Gujarat, the workers do not suffer from diseases like asthma and TB, because of inhaling asbestos and other substances, while dismantling the ship.

Creation of jobs by private sector in Jharkhand

820. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many jobs would be created in Jharkhand in private sector during the next three years;

(b) what is the provision of employment for the locals/tribals to be employed in these proposed private sector industries;

(c) whether any package being worked out with the corporate sector to this effect; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) As per the information available from the State of Jharkhand, various Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) have been signed with corporate houses for establishment of industries. This will result in creation of large number of jobs in private sector.

(b) With the establishment of big industries, the local/tribal people along with others will get employment in these organizations. At the moment there is no provision for reservation to locals or tribals in jobs in the private sector. However, there is provision to provide job to locals/tribals who will be displaced by such industries. However, a farm policy for displaced persons/families is not in place at the moment.